

found that they did corrupt some of our people, especially the women, by their heresies.¹§

About a week after, we sent men to fetch so many of their cattle as might defray our charges, both of the soldiers and of the court, which spent many days about them, and for their expenses in prison. It came to in all about 160 pounds. There were three who escaped out of the house; these being sent for to come in, two of them did so, and one of them, because his hand was not to the letters, was freely discharged, the other was sent home upon his own bond to appear at the next court, (only some of his cattle were taken towards the charges). There was a fourth who had his hand to the first letter, but he died before our soldiers went, and we left his whole estate to his wife and children. Their arms were all taken from them, and of their guns the court gave one fowling piece to Pumham and another to Saconoco, and liberty granted them to have powder as being now within our jurisdiction.

The Lord Bartemore being owner of much land near Virginia, being himself a papist, and his brother Mr. Calvert •149 the governour there a papist also, but the colony consisted both of protestants and papists, he wrote a letter to Captain

¹ It is strange, that so important a part of the history, though given in the margin of the original MS. should have been omitted in the former edition, for it fills the measure of our ancestor's policy. Part of the truth is told indeed in a later paragraph, but the whole is better. Though death had been threatened for speaking, yet when they were known to have corrupted some of the flock, these misguided prisoners were liberated, because their keepers were in danger.

From the terms of the court's order, which I extract from Vol. II. 44, it should be inferred that no place but England was left for the unhappy schismatics. To England they went, and we must rejoice that they obtained justice. "It is ordered that Samuel Gorton and the rest of that company, who now stand confined, shall be set at liberty, provided that if they, or any of them, shall after fourteen days after such enlargement come within any part of our jurisdiction, either in the Massachusetts, or in or near Providence, or any of the lands of Pumham or Sachoncho, or elsewhere within our jurisdiction, then such person or persons shall be apprehended, wheresoever they may be taken, and shall suffer death by course of law, provided also that during all their continuance in our bounds inhabiting for the said time of fourteen days, they shall be still bound to the rest of the articles of their former confinement upon the penalty therein expressed."